

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Vehicle on Display in Metro Denver

DENVER, May 31, 2012—The Regional Transportation District (RTD) will display a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) demonstration bus next week in downtown Denver and in the Northwest service area as part of educating the public about the elements of BRT. People can tour the model to see an example of a BRT vehicle. The model is just one of many types of BRT buses available.

BRT is popular in many areas of the world and comes in various forms, each customized to the needs of the community. BRT provides cost-effective, reliable and high-frequency service. Similar to rail transit, characteristics of BRT can include enhanced shelters with state-of-the art digital customer information and off-board ticket vending machines, and it often operates in high-occupancy vehicle or dedicated bus lanes.

The U.S. 36 FasTracks project incorporates 18 miles of BRT, from I-25 to Table Mesa in Boulder. Construction to extend nearly 11 miles of BRT/express lanes on U.S. 36, from Pecos to 88th Street, begins this summer and is scheduled to be completed in December 2014.

“Having the model on display is part of our public education process to show people the differences between a regular bus and a BRT bus. While this isn’t necessarily the type of vehicle RTD will use in our system, it gives people an idea of what’s available as RTD continues to build out its vision for BRT as a new class of service in the region,” said Lee Kemp, RTD Board Chair.

The BRT model is on loan from North American Bus Industries as it makes its way to its final destination in San Antonio, Texas. The model will be available for viewing at the following locations:



June 5

- **Market Street Station** on 16th Street between Market and Blake, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- **Westminster** in the bus slip ramp on the north (west bound) side of U.S. 36, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

June 6

- **Boulder** at the Municipal Building, at the corner of Canyon and Broadway, 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- **Longmont** at the park-n-Ride at 8th Avenue and Coffman, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

June 7

- **Broomfield** inside the park-n-Ride at Gate B, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- **Louisville/Superior** inside the parking lot by the kiss-n-Ride on the south (east bound) side of US 36, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

This model display is a 60-foot articulated version. It's a low-floor, high-capacity vehicle that will use diesel and natural gas fuels. The BRT vehicle has a modern, streamlined appearance that emulates other rapid transit vehicles, such as light rail cars.

The U.S. 36 Express Lanes project is a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)-led project that will build a managed lane in each direction along U.S. 36 for use by the BRT, high-occupancy vehicles (HOV), and tolled single-occupant vehicles (SOV). The project also includes new bus shelters at each of the BRT stations and the installation of public information display for scheduled bus arrival time information. The first element of the FasTracks program to be completed is the U.S. 36 BRT Phase 1 Project, which includes slip ramps, pedestrian bridges, and access improvements to park-n-Rides along U.S. 36.

RTD's FasTracks transit expansion program will build 122 miles of commuter rail and light rail, 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to better connect the eight-county District.

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